The commercial "core" of this area constitutes twelve city blocks bounded by Pine Street in the west, Kenan and South Streets in the south, Green Street in the north and the railroad tracks in the east.

The central area of a city is the place where a city had its beginning. It is also the basis of a city's existance both economically and physically. In a recent article, one North Carolina planner observed that the assessed valuation per acre in the central areas of cities is one thousand times the same figure for the rural areas. From an economic standpoint, therefore, preservation and development of central areas are essential. Physically, the central areas provide a focal point to the entire community and as such integrates and holds together a city as a unified complex. If the central area of a city is allowed to be diffused, the city itself might disintegrate.

In most of the smaller communities this diffusion has tended to take place along the main thoroughfares. Wilson has so far, been lucky to be able to maintain a fairly compact "core" area and avoid unnecessary diffusion along the main thoroughfare. The recent developments, however, show a tendency toward this type of development along west Nash Street. Also, the central area of Wilson, like most other cities in the nation is confronted with various problems. These include: inadequate parking facilities, incompatible land uses, obsolesence of structures due to age and in general unattractive surroundings.

Realizing the importance of revitalizing the City's central area, the Planning Board of Wilson together with the North Carolina Department of Conservation and Development, Division of Community Planning and with federal financial assistance, developed this proposal.

At the onset it must be stressed that the purpose of this report is to provide a framework for further studies. This should be followed with more detailed studies on market analysis, economic feasibility studies, physical design studies, etc., in future. This proposal, therefore, should never be considered as the final solutions to the problems of Wilson's central area. This is a very complex